



McGregor W. Scott
United States Attorney
Eastern District of California

Sacramento
501 I. Street, Ste 10-100
Sacramento CA 95814
Tel (916) 554-2700
TTY (916) 554-2855

NEWS RELEASE

Fresno
2500 Tulare St., Suite 4401
Fresno, CA 93721
Tel (559) 497-4000
TTY (559) 497-4500

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Contact: Rosemary Shaul (916) 554-2802

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SHASTA COUNTY MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON
FOR CLAIMING THREE FICTITIOUS CHILDREN FOR SSI BENEFITS

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that CHARLES EDWARD WILLIAMS, 67, of Palo Cedro, California, was sentenced today by United States District Judge William B. Shubb to serve two years in federal prison and pay restitution in the amount of \$31,776 for theft from the Social Security Administration (SSA). The defendant entered a guilty plea on February 5, 2007.

This case is the product of an investigation by the Office of the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Matthew Stegman, who prosecuted the case, in 2001, WILLIAMS filed an application in the Redding SSA office to be a representative payee for three fictitious children. He provided birth and baptismal certificates for the children. The youngest child was supposedly born in Shasta County. In fact, a birth certificate was on file at the Shasta County Records Office, but it was proved to be false. The document did not have a doctor's signature and it falsely showed that the child was born at WILLIAMS' residence. The other two fictitious children were supposedly born in Lake County, California. However, Lake County had no such birth certificates on file. WILLIAMS received \$31,776 in benefits on behalf of these three fictitious children for the period of October 2000 to August 2003.

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